

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6390**

**BILL NUMBER:** HB 1956

**NOTE PREPARED:** Dec 6, 2002

**BILL AMENDED:**

**SUBJECT:** Speech and Hearing Pathologist Licensure.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Rep. Thompson

**FIRST SPONSOR:**

**BILL STATUS:** As Introduced

**FUNDS AFFECTED:** X GENERAL  
DEDICATED  
FEDERAL

**IMPACT:** State

**Summary of Legislation:** The bill requires the Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Board to review requests for waivers of education requirements for licensure.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2003.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** This bill provides for the Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Board to review requests from applicants who wish to have the educational requirements for licensure waived. The bill also allows the Board to waive the educational requirements for licensure if the applicant is licensed in another state and has experience reasonably equal to a master's degree in the speech-language pathology or audiology area. The educational requirement calls for a master's degree and transcripts from the educational institution proving the number of credits taken. The Health Professions Bureau (HPB) may experience additional administrative costs to change the current application form. The Board holds four meetings per year. If an additional Board meeting is needed, it would cost approximately \$1,000, or \$625 if hotel stay is unnecessary.

**Explanation of State Revenues:** This bill could potentially increase the issuance of licenses, which would increase the HPB's fee revenue. The Board reported approximately \$68,900 in fee revenue in FY 2002. Currently, the HPB charges \$150 for the initial application and \$100 for renewal of pathologists and audiologists. As of October 21, 2002, the HPB reported 1,766 pathologists and 339 audiologists licensed by the Board.

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:**

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** Health Professions Bureau.

**Local Agencies Affected:**

**Information Sources:** Matt Hopper, Health Professions Bureau.

**Fiscal Analyst:** Valerie Ruda, 232-9867